



# **CITY COUNCIL**

## **CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **DJOU APPLAUDS COUNCIL COMMITTEE ACTION ON ETHICS REFORM**

Today, Councilman Charles K. Djou (Waikiki-East Honolulu) today applauded the action of the Executive Matters Committee for advancing a proposal, introduced by Djou, giving the Ethics Commission power to impose civil fines for ethics code violations.

“When council members serve prison sentences for issues relating to misconduct in office, it impacts community trust in government. The Council action today sends a strong message to ethics violators that their brazen actions will not be tolerated,” said Djou. “The Council is setting an example for all city officials and employees, and this action promotes appropriate guidelines to deter unethical behavior.”

The Executive Matters Committee approved the proposal, allowing the Ethics Commission to impose civil fines established by ordinance for ethics code violations. Currently, the Ethics Commission may only send a letter asking a violator to stop unethical behavior.

“I applaud the committee members for their interest in the issue. This will be a strong new weapon in deterring unethical behavior and rebuilding confidence in City Hall,” said Djou. He added, “Before City government can tackle the major issues of the economy, crime, or transportation, we need a basic foundation of public trust.”

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